

Report of the Book Committee.

John Directors of the E. M. L. C. of Concord, N. H.

Now, Book Committee make the following report of their expenditures during the Library year ending March 1st 1898.

Books Purchased	80 Vols.	91.39
Magazines ..	11 Nos.	3.55
Do. Bound	32 Vols.	24.00
Books Rebound	73 ..	18.25
Do. Bound	10 ..	4.05
Numbers for Books		1.00
Cartage & Expressage		1.97
50 Copies Concordance Advance		90 \$145.11

The aggregate amount expended for books during the past year has been smaller than in any previous year for the reason that the circulation has been less, and the wants of the association have not seemed to demand a large increase. Out of the new publications of the year as advertised and from a careful scrutiny of all books called for, of which our Librarian keeps a full record, we have selected those purchased. Our aim having been to furnish reading at least innocent and healthful, though endeavoring to please the popular taste. It has been a source of pleasure to us to scan the columns of the daily papers for a report of the works as issued from the press - to note the criticisms friendly and otherwise - to speculate as to the interest each work would possess, and what would be the effect on our varied classes of readers. It has not been a dry and monotonous task by any means. We would gladly have furnished such works as impart instruction rather than amusement, but can hardly discover the advantage of buying books that will remain unread and unsorted on the shelves of the Library. We are now negotiating for a copy of Appleton's Encyclopedia New Edition Vols. and hope soon to add that standard work to our collection.

E. M. Beck
Alfred Pardee } Book Committee